

LIVING PRIDE OUT LOUD

 UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

WORSHIP
RESOURCES



LOVE IS LOUDER

Love Your Neighbor **OUT LOUD**

Living Pride OUT LOUD Worship Resources is curated
in support of **Love is Louder: Love Your Neighbor
OUT LOUD** initiative presented by
Gender & Sexuality Justice Ministries of the
United Church of Christ National Setting.

www.ucc.org/loveislouder



Call to Worship

Adapted from www.enfleshed.com.

Leader A: In the image of God, you created everything and called it good!

Leader B: In abundant diversity, your likeness is found in us.

Leader A: We reject all messages that belittle or degrade any among us.

Leader B: And so in faithfulness to God and one another we proclaim:

All: Sacred are our bodies of every size and dis/ability


Leader A: Blessed are our sexualities, drawing us towards love of many kinds.

All: Beloved is every gender, revealing you in different ways.

Leader B: To our skin, beautiful in every shade, we say hallelujah!

Leaders A and B: Praise God, our Creator, who blesses us with this world,

All: And blesses us with these bodies, and our fellow creatures, all created good, very good!





LOVE IS LOUDER

Love Your Neighbor **OUT LOUD**

Love is Louder: Love Your Neighbor OUT LOUD is a campaign faithfully supporting the spiritual, physical, and mental well-being of LGBTQIA+ siblings by equipping faith communities with resources and tools for just action and care. This campaign is offered by the Gender & Sexuality Justice Team of the United Church of Christ National Ministries.

The campaign features:

- Advocacy 101 Webinars for Quarterly toolkit releases
- Quarterly toolkit releases
- Love is Louder T-Shirt = Discretionary Fund support
- Love is Louder: Love Your Neighbor OUT LOUD Pride & Worship Tour

To learn more and engage these resources visit, www.ucc.org/loveislouder.

With Gratitude
& Joy,

Rachael Ward, they/them, Minister & Team Leader for Gender & Sexuality Justice Ministries of the United Church of Christ National Setting



Invocation - Followed by Reflection Activity Below

Materials: Index cards, colorful markers/pens, ushers to collect, a station front of congregation.

The past, present and future of our L-G-B-T-Q-I-A+ Siblings lives within this very space. Each of us carries with us memories; woven tapestry threads that complete the Imago Dei.

This (*morning/evening/etc.*) before God, one another and the Church - we bear witness to the stories we share, we know and do not know of L-G-B-T-Q-I-A+ siblings who came before us, with us now and ahead who will continue the work of justice, peace, mercy and love.

We bear witness so all may be free to live into who Creators calls us to be - Wonderfully Made; Knitted with intention - love embodied.


Reflect on names, stories, places that have nourished you with Love OUT LOUD for your personhood.

In-Person Participation:

The congregation is invited during this time to place your offering onto the Eucharist table. If you would like an usher to place your index card for you, please raise your hand and an usher will place your offering for you.

Virtual Participation:

Those gathered virtually are invited to place your shares within the platform chat you are gathering alongside us.





Prayer of Blessing & Empowerment

Written by Rachael Ward, Minister & Team Leader for Gender & Sexuality Justice, UCC National. Can be led by multiple readers.

Opening Prayer: God of tenderness - *of soft, holy comfort* - breathe life into our restless bodies. Empower us to embody your relentless love & grace. Help us mirror to one another that you are a God who makes no mistakes. Let these prayers reverberate far & wide:

For Queer Youth:


You are beautiful and wonderfully made as you are. You are queer enough as you are. Your journey to discover who you are in your queerness is a gift to bear witness to and worthy of celebration. Keep going. Keep embracing yourself as you are in bloom. You are enough as you are and you are a yes to God, always.

For Queer Ancestors:

Thank you for your relentless resistance so that advocacy, love, care, and justice could be manifested and continued in this moment. Your voices - Your Bodies - Your Spirits live onward in this space & beyond. Your life is a gift and we will continue to tell your stories so you live onward in just action & love.

For Queer Elders:

Your wisdom matters. Your voice is critical to our continued flourishing and your life reminds us to take up space in this world despite what others may say or do. Your heart and spirit to be as you are empowers all of us to reflect on how to show up as ourselves, authentically.





Prayer of Blessing & Empowerment

For Allies:

Your support is needed and we are grateful for how you commit to becoming aware of what the Queer Community faces daily. In furthering your awareness, we all become free. In joining hand -n-hand with the Queer Community, we work more intentionally toward intersectional justice and communal care.

For the Church:

Despite the ways religion is used as a weapon of harm, the Church - *the people of God* - continues to embody love over hate. The ways we make space for all - not only changes lives - but saves lives.

In the great call to tend to one another, Earth and ourselves, may we continue to empower one another to be the Church that Christ nourished over meals - a table, our stories, our resilience & our deep believe in love that transcends all things through a Creator who knows our inner being and calls us in to bloom new life again & again, together.

Amen.





Sample Order of Worship

- Prelude
 - Pride Welcome
 - Call to Worship
 - Opening Hymn
 - Invocation & Reflective Moment
 - Prayer of Blessing & Empowerment
 - Song of Response
 - Passing of the Peace
 - Testimony of Scripture
 - Homily/Sermon
 - Hymn
 - Prayers of the People
 - A Time of Action
 - Hymn
 - Benediction
 - Postlude
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